up drought relief works during 2001;

(b) the number of taluks in the State declared as drought affected during 2001;

(c) the amount of additional grant sought for by the State Government to take up drought relief works; and

(d) the reasons for not sanctioning the required amount to that State to tackle the drought effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARA YAN YADA V): (a) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to take necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. A sum of Rs. 58.72 crore has been released to the State of Karnataka during 2001-2002 as Central share from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). Distribution of relief is, however, the responsibility of the State Government.

(b) The State Government had declared 146 *taluks* as drought affected.

(c) and (d) The request of the State Government for assistance from the national Calamity Contingency Fund (CCF) was considered by the High Level Committee (HCL), in its meeting held on 5th September, 2001. Keeping in view the balances available with the State Government in their Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), the HLC recommended that, to begin with, funds from the CRF be utilized. No assistance was approved from the NCCF and the State Government was suitably informed.

Small and marginal farmers

† l80. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ascertained the number of small and marginal farmers in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the areas of land available with such farmers for cultivation, State-wise?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAY AN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. Thenumber of operational holdings and the area operated by them are estimated through quinquennial Agricultural Censuses conducted by the Government.

(b) A statement on the State-wise number and area operated by marginal and small operational holdings is given *(See* below).

Statement

Number and Area of Marginal and Small Operational Holdings estimated through Agricultural Census, 1990-91

SI. No.	State	Number of operational holdings (In thousand)		Area operated (In thousand hect.)	
		Marginal	Small	Marginal	Small
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5211	1972	2369	2827
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	17	10	26
3.	Assam	1521	560	607	784
4.	Bihar	10193	1438	3591	1954
5.	Goa	58	7	19	11
6.	Gujarat	924	915	489	1343
7.	Haryana	622	304	295	463
8.	Himachal Pradesh	532	166	215	235
9.	Jammu &, Kashmir	902	197	347	272
10.	Karnataka	2262	1586	1072	2308
11.	Kerala	5016	280	865	383
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3136	1917	1409	2783
13.	Maharashtra	3275	2728	1618	3983
14.	Manipur	69	49	38	67
15.	Meghalaya	59	51	32	68
16.	Mizoram	29	23	18	36
17.	Nagaland	13	21	9	30
18.	Orissa	2118	1035	1045	1426
19.	Punjab	296	204	164	328
20.	Rajasthan	1517	1019	725	1469

1 2	3	4	5	6
21. Sikkim	26	11	11	19
22. TamrlNadu	5848	1275	2118	1794
23. Tripura	217	69	87	106
24. Uttar Pradesh	14819	3118	5653	4391
25. West Bengal	4639	1107	2064	1694
26. All Union Terr.	70	19	25	25
All India:	63389	20092	24894	28827

Subsidies to MDFVL

181. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mother Dairy Fruit and Vegetable Limited (MDFVL) is a public limited company, with reported turnover of Rs. 900 crores, and is manufacturing high-end consumer items such as ice cream;

(b) whether MDFVL is a profit making entity and no longer qualifies for subsidies such as subsidized rental for its booths in the National Capital Region; and

(c) whether it has been considered inviting competitive bidding for shelf space at the Mother Dairy booths for generating additional revenues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO N ARA YAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. Mother Dairy Fruit & Vegetable Ltd. is a Public Limited Company. It had a turnover of about Rs. 838 crores during the accounting year ending March 2001 mostly from the sale of liquid milk, fresh fruit and vegetables. Ice cream sales constitute only about 5% of the total turnover of the Company.

(b) The land is given on lease basis by the local authorities on which MDFVL construct its booths on its own cost. During the accounting year ending 2001 the Company earned a net profit of Rs. 84 lacs, which is negligible on a turnover of Rs. 838 crores. Increasing of lease rent will adversely affect the benefits being passed on to the rural producers and the consumers.

(c) No Sir. Mother Dairy booths are selling products manufactured under its own brand name and the produce of the Cooperatives only. MDFVL is not considering inviting competitive bids for shelf space in its booths. Giving shelf space by inviting competitive bid will adversely affect the Cooperatives.